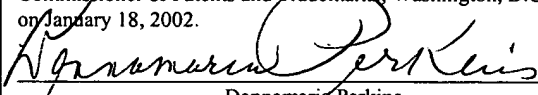


VIA EXPRESS MAIL

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 18, 2002.

  
Donnamaria Perkins

HACK-206 US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Hong Zhou  
Serial No. :  
Filed : Herewith  
For : INHIBITOR OF OSTEOCLAST PRECURSOR  
FORMATION  
Art Unit : Unknown  
Examiner : Unknown

January 18, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY  
AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend this application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 18, last line: change "23 of 24" to - - 24 of 25 - -.

Page 19, line 26: change "713" to - - 721 - -.

Page 20, line 1: chnage "713" to - - 721 - -.

Page 43, line 36: after "sequence" add - - (bp 133-633) - -.